

June 7, 2002

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**COMMISSION BEGINS PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON
COMP PLAN UPDATE**

For over a year and a half, SMC and its Stormwater Advisory Committee have worked to develop a realistic vision for comprehensive stormwater management in Lake County over the next 5-10 years. Last night, SMC commissioners voted to begin a 60-day public comment period on its Lake County Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan Update.

The public review will run July 1 - August 29. A public hearing will be held on Wed., August 14, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., County Building, 18 N. County St., Waukegan.

"We know, as a board and as a staff, what we'd like to do over the next few years. Now the residents of Lake County have an opportunity to help shape that vision," said Steve Mountsier, SMC Chairman.

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P. 2 – PLAN UPDATE PUBLIC COMMENTS PERIOD

Some of the additional programs highlighted in the update concentrate on flood hazard mitigation, a program that addresses the federally mandated Phase II of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, and much needed watershed management planning for developing watersheds.

“This Plan describes what our role is and should be in Lake County and will guide our decision-making over the next five years on a new and expanded services within financial constraints,” said Ward Miller, SMC Executive Director.

Written comments will be accepted throughout the public review period. Send your comments to: LCSMC, 333-B Peterson Rd., Libertyville, IL 60048. Copies of the Plan Update will be available for viewing at SMC offices and at your local libraries reference section. Following the public review period, SMC and the County Board will need to adopt the final plan.

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AGENCY OVERVIEW

Twelve commissioners – 6 mayors/village presidents and 6 County Board members – govern SMC. A staff of 18 carries out Day to day activities. Key areas of SMC’s countywide program include implementation and monitoring of the Lake County Watershed Development Ordinance, watershed management planning and plan implementation, flood hazard mitigation, natural drainage system maintenance, rain gage network m&o, natural resource protection, and public education and outreach. The agency’s FY’02 budget is \$2.3 million and is based on property tax income.